

OKINAWA MARINE

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Ospreys make longest Pacific flight to date



An MV-22B Osprey receives an aerial refuel Aug. 2 during a flight from Marine Corps Air Station Futenma to Townsville, Australia. The flight is currently the longest to be performed by the Osprey in the Pacific region. The Osprey is assigned to Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 265, Marine Aircraft Group 36, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, III Marine Expeditionary Force.

Photo by Lance Cpl. David N. Hersey

Lance Cpl. David N. Hersey

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION FUTENMA — Two MV-22B Ospreys completed the longest distance Osprey tanking mission to date in the Pacific region Aug. 2-5, beginning from Marine Corps Air Station Futenma and ending in Townsville, Australia.

The aircrews conducted aerial refueling operations during tanking missions to extend their flight range, reducing the number of required landings and shortening the mission timeline.

Two KC-130J Super Hercules refueling aircraft supported the Ospreys during the record-setting flight.

The KC-130Js are with Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron 152, Marine Aircraft Group 36, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, III Marine Expeditionary Force, and the Ospreys are with Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 265, MAG-36, 1st MAW, III MEF.

The flight demonstrated the aircraft's long-distance capabilities and the advantages it provides over traditional helicopters, according to Gunnery Sgt. Wade M. Davis, an MV-22B tiltrotor

see **OSPREY** pg 5

MRF-D Marines break barriers in Aussie fitness test

Sgt. Sarah Fiocco

MARINE ROTATIONAL FORCE-DARWIN PUBLIC AFFAIRS

ROBERTSON BARRACKS, Northern Territory, Australia — Marines with Marine Rotational Force-Darwin competed for two spots in an Australian Combat Fitness Leadership Course July 30 during a barrier test at Robertson Barracks, Northern Territory, Australia.

The test consisted of several grueling exercises designed to measure physical fitness, including a rope climb, a maximum set of push-ups in two minutes, a 2.4-kilometer run and a 50-meter swim.

"We use these exercises to determine the initial physical abilities of someone looking to be a combat fitness leader," said Australian Army Cpl. Todd Hayes, a physical training instructor. "You need to have a high level of physical ability to attend the course."

Although the course provides service members with the skills necessary to lead physical training efficiently within units of the Australian Defence Force, it does

see **MRF-D** pg 5

Khaan Quest 2013 begins

Sgt. Ben Eberle

U.S. MARINE FORCES PACIFIC

FIVE HILLS TRAINING AREA, Mongolia — The 11th iteration of Exercise Khaan Quest officially started Aug. 3 as military leaders and senior government officials from Mongolia, the U.S., and other regional partners gathered for an opening ceremony.

Khaan Quest is one of the largest peacekeeping and stability exercises and has played a part in training thousands of service members from around the world.

"Khaan Quest has become one of the signature training events for the participating nations," said Mongolian Armed Forces Lt. Gen. Ts. Byambajav, chief of general staff for the MAF. "At this moment we have more than 150,000 international peacekeeping troops performing their duties overseas ... this is a result of the Khaan Quest exercises."

see **KQ13** pg 5



Members of the Mongolian Armed Forces 234 Cavalry Unit give a demonstration of their riding skills during the opening ceremony of Exercise Khaan Quest in Five Hills Training Area, Mongolia, Aug. 3, 2013. Khaan Quest is an annual multinational exercise sponsored by Mongolia and the U.S., designed to strengthen the capabilities of U.S., Mongolia and other nations' forces in international peace support operations.

Photo by Sgt. John M. Ewald

IN THIS
ISSUE

KENDALL TOURS INSTALLATIONS
ACROSS OKINAWA

PG. 4

MARINES EXECUTE
INSERTION-AND-EXTRACTION
TRAINING WITH HELICOPTERS

PG. 6-7

FESTIVAL BRINGS JAPANESE,
AMERICANS TOGETHER

PG. 9

Seek responsibility, take responsibility for actions

Lance Cpl. Jose D. Lujano

Which is the most important of the 11 Marine Corps leadership principles? Is one more important than the others?

Individuals can debate the question, but to be a well-rounded leader requires competence in all 11 leadership principles.

Looking at the final leadership principle, seek responsibility and take responsibility for your actions, is a good place to start for Marines seeking to improve their leadership skills.

To be a leader is to be responsible and to grow as a leader means to take on new responsibilities. Most Marines joined the Marine Corps for a challenge, and they will not be truly challenged unless they take on additional responsibilities.

Whatever a Marine's situation is, whether a private or an officer, the 11th leadership principle is a guideline to better themselves as a leader and to uphold the name of the United States Marine Corps on a daily basis.

However, seeking responsibilities and taking responsibility for your actions can be considered a double-edged sword. By seeking responsibilities, Marines also put themselves on the line. If they fail to meet the mission, it is no one else's fault but their own because they are in charge; not their peers or subordinates.

Leaders take responsibility not only for their actions, but also for the actions of their subordinates, who are direct reflections of themselves.

Marines must have the moral courage to stand up and take ownership of the mistakes made on their watch.

It takes courage to go into the unknown and challenge yourself, as well as it takes responsibility for learning from your mistakes. Marines can incorporate this trait in every aspect of their life, both on and off duty, instilling it into their character.

Taking on extra duties and demonstrating resiliency in all aspects of your work and personal life embodies the values the

11th leadership principle seeks to instill. A resilient Marine is someone who overcomes mental, moral or physical challenges and gets back into the fight.

In my opinion, there is no perfect leader nor is there a most important leadership principle. To be an effective professional leader you must embody all of the leadership principles because they are all equally important in the making of a successful leader.

Lujano is a combat correspondent for the Okinawa Marine Newspaper.

1. Be technically and tactically proficient.
2. Know yourself and seek self-improvement.
3. Know your Marines and look out for their welfare.
4. Keep your Marines informed.
5. Set the example.
6. Ensure the task is understood, supervised and accomplished.
7. Train your Marines as a team.
8. Make sound and timely decisions.
9. Develop a sense of responsibility in your subordinates.
10. Employ your unit in accordance with its capabilities.
11. Seek responsibility and take responsibility for your actions.

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AROUND THE CORPS



Marines take cover July 24 during a breaching explosion at Camp Lejeune, N.C., as part of the sapper leaders course. The Marines executed urban demolition to learn advanced combat engineer tactics, techniques and procedures. The Marines are with 2nd Combat Engineer Battalion, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force; 4th Combat Engineer Bn., 4th Marine Division, Marine Forces Reserve; and 8th Engineer Support Bn., 2nd Marine Logistics Group, II MEF.

Photo by Cpl. Martin Platek

Members of the Mongolian Military Music and Dance Academic Ensemble perform traditional dances during the Mongolian culture night at Exercise Khaan Quest in Five Hills Training Area, Mongolia, Aug. 4. Khaan Quest is an annual multinational exercise sponsored by Mongolia and the U.S., designed to strengthen the capabilities of participating nations' forces in international peace support operations. Photo by Sgt John M. Ewald



OKINAWA MARINE

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SOUTHERN BUREAU
Camp Kinser
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Winner, 2012 DoD Thomas Jefferson Award
Best Tabloid Format Newspaper

III MEF sailors earn Navy-wide awards

Lance Cpl. Pete Sanders

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP FOSTER — A pair of sailors was presented Navy-wide awards by Brig. Gen. Steven R. Rudder for their service and conduct during a ceremony Aug. 2 at Building 1 headquarters on Camp Foster.

Petty Officer 1st Class Joseph S. De La Cruz was recognized as the 2013 Independent Duty Corpsman of the Year for the Navy during the ceremony, and Petty Officer 1st Class Michael J. Pena received the 2012 Robert Graham Enlisted Award for his performance in support of the Naval Aerospace and Physiology program.

De La Cruz is a corpsman with Marine Wing Support Squadron 172, Marine Aircraft Group 36, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, III Marine Expeditionary Force, and Pena is an aeromedical safety corpsman with MAG-36, 1st MAW, III MEF. Rudder is the commanding general of 1st MAW, III MEF.

De La Cruz demonstrated the kind of leadership and work ethic the Navy aims to exemplify, according to his award citation. His achievements have significantly contributed to the provision of operational medicine, combat readiness and the overall health of sailors and Marines in his unit.

"Awards such as the IDC of the Year solidify (the fact) that these sailors are truly doing the best they possibly can at their jobs," said Master Chief Petty Officer David D. Jones, the command master chief of 1st MAW.

Independent duty corpsmen are credentialed medical providers, able to receive patients, prescribe medication and perform minor operations, among other duties.

"These sailors are a vital part of the fleet force, fulfilling their duties on ships and dry land alike," said Jones.

De La Cruz plans to keep on the path that has brought him success.

"I'm still in a state of shock ... I know I couldn't have done it without the help of fellow corpsmen," said De La Cruz. "But I'm nowhere near done; I'm going to continue doing what I've been doing."

Pena earned recognition for his role in leading, mentoring and training over 1,600 members of MAG-36, as well as helping revive a screening program for water survival training, according to the citation. His contributions positively affected the command's ability to maintain expeditionary readiness.

Corpsmen are responsible for the safety of every service member within their command, according to Pena.

"We have to identify all of the hazards in a given situation and find ways to eliminate or minimize those risks," said Pena.

Public recognition of service members' work plays an important role in rewarding good Marines and sailors and encouraging all to do their best.

"When service members earn awards like this, it keeps everything together," said Jones. "These awards commend those who worked hard and encourages others to become the best at whatever it is they do."

The 1st MAW leadership hopes the recent trend of awards and excellent service continues, according to Jones.

"It shows that (the sailors) are truly doing the best they can at their jobs and as service members, as well as demonstrating maturity and growth in their technical skills," said Jones.

BRIEFS

MEDICATION TAKE BACK DAY

U.S. Naval Hospital Okinawa is holding a medication take back day Aug. 17 at the Camp Courtney commissary from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Turn in unused or expired medications for safe and proper disposal. The service is open to all SOFA personnel and retirees.

For more information, call 646-7191.

TEEN CENTER RENOVATIONS

The Foster Teen Center, located in building 200, is scheduled for facility renovations Aug. 1-30.

During the renovation period, the teen center activities will be held at the Kishaba Youth Center, Bldg. 24, with the following adjusted hours:

Kishaba Youth Hours:

Monday-Saturday: noon to 4 p.m.

Teen Hours:

Monday-Thursday: 4-7 p.m.

Friday-Saturday: 4-10 p.m.

For more information, call 645-4505.

LIBRARY ACTIVITIES AUG. 11-17

Check out these free activities at MCCS libraries.

- Camp Foster Library:
Movie night Aug. 12 at 6:30 p.m. (645-7178)
- Camp Schwab Library:
Board games Aug. 13 at 5:30 p.m. (625-2518)
- MCAS Futenma Library:
Shark Jeopardy Aug. 14 at 11:30 a.m. (636-3946)
- Camp Hansen Library:
Japanese (Hiragana/Katakana) Aug. 15 at 5 p.m. (623-7372)
- Camp Kinser Library:
Jeopardy Aug. 15 at 5:30 p.m. (637-1039)
- Camp Courtney Library:
Basic Japanese Aug. 16 at 5 p.m. (622-9280)

MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT RETREAT

Chaplains Religious Enrichment Development Operation is hosting a marriage retreat August 22-24 at the Kafuu Resort.

The retreat provides a free opportunity for all married couples to learn about or refresh their relationship skills.

Registration is via a first-come, first-served basis, and forms are available at <http://www.mccsokinawa.com/CREDO>.

For more information call 645-3041.

Marine completes journeyman course



Sgt. Justin L. Kloppe, right, receives a certificate of completion for the Global Combat Support System-Marine Corps Journeyman program from Col. Mark M. Walter Aug. 1 at the 3rd Marine Logistics Group Headquarters Building on Camp Kinser. GCSS-MC is a combat-support system that logistically integrates maintenance and supply into one combined system to allow commanders to maintain real-time accountability of all equipment and vehicles across their forces. The journeyman program is a 3rd MLG effort to increase GCSS-MC proficiency throughout the logistics group in order to increase III Marine Expeditionary Force readiness. Kloppe is the first Marine to complete the program. He spent more than 100 hours in GCSS-MC courses, in addition to six months of managed on-the-job training. Kloppe is a maintenance management specialist with the GCSS-MC instructor program, 3rd MLG, III MEF. Walter is the chief of staff of 3rd MLG.

Photo by Lance Cpl. John S. Gargano

TO SUBMIT A BRIEF, send an email to okinawamarine.mcbb.fct@usmc.mil. The deadline for submitting a brief is noon Wednesday. Okinawa Marine reserves the right to edit all submitted material.

Kendall tours Okinawa to gain insight on realignment

Sgt. Brian A. Marion
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION FUTENMA — Frank Kendall, the under secretary of defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics, toured military installations on Okinawa July 31 to gain a better understanding of consolidation and realignment efforts of military forces on Okinawa.

Kendall also presented Col. James G. Flynn with the 2013 Secretary of Defense Environmental Award for environmental quality in an overseas installation during his visit.

Flynn is the commanding officer of Marine Corps Air Station Futenma, Marine Corps Installations Pacific.

“With the shift (of focus) back to the Pacific, I want to see what it would take to keep you up and running,” said Kendall.

Kendall and Lt. Gen. John E. Wissler, the commanding general of III Marine Expeditionary Force, and U.S. Air Force Lt. Gen. Salvatore A. Angelella, the commander of U.S. Forces Japan, first flew to Camp Schwab for an aerial orientation of the proposed Marine Corps Air Station Futenma replacement facility location.

In the future, MCAS Futenma operations will be located at a replacement facility on Camp Schwab, so Kendall traveled there to see its location, according to Flynn.

One reason for the planned relocation of MCAS Futenma is due to the increased urbanization of Ginowan City where the air station is currently located and the areas surrounding the air station in recent years, according to Flynn.

“As an agreement between the Japan and United States governments, MCAS Futenma (operations) will relocate to a replacement facility after it is completed,” said Flynn.

Afterward, they proceeded to Camp Kinser for an aerial orientation before landing on MCAS Futenma where they toured the flight line and discussed how the station would remain operational until the new facility comes to fruition.

With the constant humidity and salt environment of the Pacific, there is a battle to prevent the erosion of facilities and equipment, according to Flynn.

For instance, Kendall was briefed on how one crane, that is normally rated to lift five tons, is currently rated to lift only 2,000 pounds due to corrosion.

Other issues discussed during



Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics Frank Kendall, left, is greeted by Col. James G. Flynn during Kendall's visit to Marine Corps Air Station Futenma July 31. Kendall visited MCAS Futenma and received aerial tours of other Marine Corps installations on Okinawa to gain a better understanding of the issues associated with consolidation and realignment efforts. Flynn is the commanding officer of MCAS Futenma, Marine Corps Installations Pacific. Photo by Sgt. Brian Marion

Kendall's visit were flooding of some hangars during heavy rains and the need for Ospreys to have larger hangars.

“These hangars were built before the Osprey was even designed,” said Flynn. “They were built for smaller aircraft, and as such, if we need to conduct any maintenance on it, we have to take

it to another hangar that's large enough or conduct the maintenance on the tarmac.”

As his tour ended on Futenma, Kendall congratulated the Marines on their work before heading to Kadena Air Base.

“You all have done a great job here, and know that your efforts aren't going unnoticed,” said Kendall.

Safety measures ensure safe time at playgrounds for children

Lance Cpl. Nicholas S. Ranum
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP FOSTER — During the hot summer months, children fuel their imaginations and stay active on playgrounds. Parents can help their children safely enjoy the recreational opportunities playgrounds present with a few easy tips.

“Children learn through playing, and playgrounds are great enablers for developing children physically, intellectually, socially and emotionally,” said Shawn M. Curtis, a certified playground safety inspector and deputy safety director with the Installation Safety Office, Marine Corps Base Camp Smedley D. Butler, Marine Corps Installations Pacific. “Children focus strictly on the fun aspect of what the playground environment offers as many are too young to comprehend applying risk management principles into their play activities.”

“Parents should educate themselves on the basics of playground safety and what hazards to look for prior to their children going to play,” said Curtis.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission has made the Public Playground Handbook 325 available for download at www.cpsc.gov, as a reference for parents interested in learning about playground safety, according to Curtis.

“Before and while the children are playing, parents need to look for broken or damaged equipment and debris on the play surface,” said Curtis. “Additionally, parents should ensure

loose or hanging pieces of clothing do not become entangled in the equipment.”

Educating children on how to use playground equipment safely is another important tool, according to Curtis.

“Adult supervision is key to preventing injuries,” said Curtis. “However, I encourage parents to discuss playground rules with their children.”

Department of Defense Education Activity Schools have already taken steps to ensure a safe and fun time for children at DODEA playground facilities.

“For all DOD schools in the Pacific, we invested in specialized certified playground safety inspection training through the National Recreation and Park Association,” said Jeffery D. Bolles, a facilities operation specialist with the DODEA Facilities Branch. “This investment continues to pay dividends as our districts and schools now have the expertise to find and correct playground concerns before they develop into safety hazards.”

The schools also use students to help with safety, according to Bolles.

“Each school is responsible for providing a safety orientation and establishing safe use expectations early in the school year and periodically throughout the school year as needed,” said Bolles. “Many schools get students involved. As an example, students at Amelia Earhart Intermediate School created a fun and informative playground safety video that uses humor to contrast the wrong and right ways to behave on the playground.”

Taking a proactive approach to addressing

safety is important for all playground users and providers.

“At the start of each year, we do grade-level assemblies to discuss our school's expectations,” said Cindy M. Templeton, the principal of Zukeran Elementary School. “Among those are how to make safe choices while playing at recess. These are reinforced by the classroom teachers, as well as the counselors in the bi-weekly classroom lessons.”

Applying these simple principles of playground safety can provide children with a fun tool that aids in social, academic and physical development.

“Exercise reduces stress and optimizes learning, so a play break in the middle of the day is not only developmentally appropriate but educationally sound,” said Templeton. “It is important for children to get outside and play during the day, but they also need to use equipment correctly, so that they don't get injured or injure others.”

“We want children to be involved in age-appropriate activities that promote fair play, teamwork and healthy living,” said Templeton.



MRF-D from pg 1

not mean they will earn the title of physical training instructor.

"This course is only the first step in becoming a physical training instructor," explained Hayes. The Marines with this rotation are the first to take part in the Australian CFLC barrier test.

"We are 100 percent excited to have the Marines participate in the course," said Hayes. "It gives our guys a chance to see how other services conduct physical training. I think it will be challenging for both the Americans and the Australians."

Because the MRF-D Marines have never participated in the Australian CFLC barrier test, they found some of the exercises particularly challenging.

"The swim was the hardest part for me," said Lance Cpl. Francisco Deleon, a radio technician with Company L, 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, MRF-D. "Your muscles are tired from doing the rope climb, push-ups and all the other exercises. After all that, it takes its toll on you to swim 50 meters in cammies."

Physical fatigue aside, Deleon said he is excited for the prospect of becoming a combat fitness leader.

"I hope I get to move on to the actual course," said Deleon. "I'll get to interact more with the Australian Army and create some lasting bonds of friendship."



Cpl. Luis Vasquez swims 50 meters July 30 as part of the Australian Combat Fitness Leadership Course barrier test. Once participants reached the opposite ends of the pool, they tread water for two minutes. This was one of seven different exercises participants had to complete. The top two Marine performers in the barrier test will attend the monthlong CFLC. Vasquez is an automotive mechanic with Company L, 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, Marine Rotational Force-Darwin. Photo by Sgt. Sarah Fiocco

OSPREY from pg 1

crew chief with VMM-265, MAG-36.

"I used to work with the (CH-46E Sea Knight helicopter) and if we wanted to do this kind of movement, we would have had to use the ships to transport them," said Davis. "This trip would have taken at least seven days instead of four."

The Ospreys flew to Clark Air Base, Republic of the Philippines, Aug. 2 before flying to Darwin, Australia, Aug. 3 and finally to Townsville, Australia, Aug. 4. The Ospreys rendezvoused with the USS Bonhomme Richard Aug. 5 where they remained, while the KC-130Js returned to MCAS Futenma.

The introduction of the Osprey to the Marine Corps has increased the operational agility of units and expanded their response capabilities, according to Capt. Timothy E. Osterhout, a KC-130J pilot with VMGR-152.

"As long as they have a steady supply of fuel, the Ospreys are capable of moving across even greater distances," said Osterhout.

Being part of such an operation served as a memorable experience for the crew because of the history they helped make with the Osprey, according to Lance Cpl. Justin F. Montgomery, a KC-130J fixed-wing aircraft crew chief with VMGR-152.

"The Ospreys are capable of long, sus-

tained flight and we proved that," said Montgomery. "I got to be a part of history, gain more experience in the process, and I enjoyed it."

Due to the success of the flight, more long-distance Osprey missions are likely to occur in the near future as VMM-265 continues to expand its capabilities.

"I was proud to see the outcome of weeks of planning come to fruition," according to Capt. Tristan G. Martinez, a KC-130J pilot with VMGR-152. "They were able to complete the mission and return in a timely manner. It was great to be a part of this historic flight, and we look forward to more in the future."

KQ13 from pg 1

Approximately 1,000 military personnel from 13 nations are taking part in both a platoon-level field training exercise, which enhances peacekeeping skills for multinational troops on a tactical level, and a battalion-level command post exercise, which sharpens decision-making capabilities during peacekeeping operations by exercising scenario-based missions.

In addition to the FTX and CPX, service members are also conducting joint and multilateral engineering civic-action program projects, as well as cooperative health engagements and medical subject-matter expert exchanges in and around Ulaanbaatar.

U.S. Navy Adm. Samuel Locklear, commander of U.S. Pacific Command, joined Piper Campbell, U.S. ambassador to Mongolia, as part of the international delegation at the opening ceremony. Locklear emphasized the importance of building interoperability between the participating nations.

"It's all about moving forward together," said Locklear. "So as we begin this very important exercise, I ask each and every one of you to foster the understanding and trust that the world will depend upon."

Following remarks from Mongolian Prime Minister Norovyn Al-tankhuyag, platoons from Mongolia, Nepal, Republic of Korea, Tajikistan and the U.S. marched during a pass-and-review, saluting the international delegation, while Mongolian paratroopers slowly descended into a nearby field.

The ceremony concluded with a performance by MAF cavalry troops, displaying precision riding expertise as they executed drill movements on horseback.

Despite mostly sunny skies, a light drizzle began to fall as U.S. and



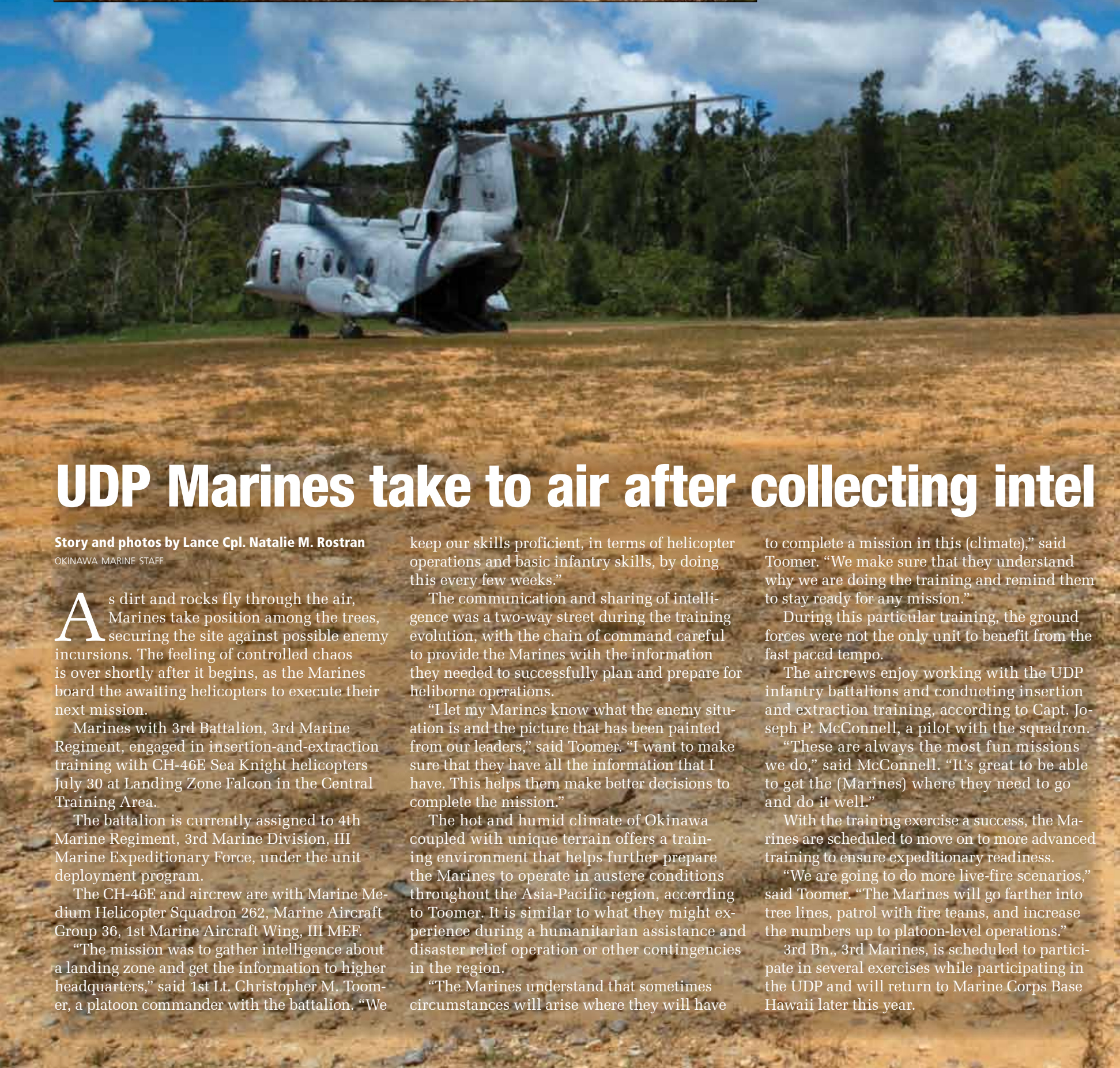
Lance Cpl. Bennett Russ works on a handicap-accessible ramp at Erdmiin Oyun School July 27 during a joint multilateral engineering civic-action project. U.S. Marines and Army soldiers with 96th Troop Command worked alongside soldiers with the Mongolian Armed Forces in Nalaikh district, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, during Exercise Khaan Quest 2013, which officially began Aug. 3. Russ is a combat engineer with 9th Engineer Support Battalion, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force. Photo by Sgt. Ben Eberle

Mongolian military leaders toured the area after the ceremony. Byambajav explained to Locklear that in Mongolia, when a visitor brings rain, it is a sign of good fortune. Locklear heartily agreed.

"As far as peacekeeping exercises go, this is one of the best in the world," said Locklear. "And I'm sure it will only get better."



Cpl. Chris A. Fernandez provides security during a training exercise July 30 at Landing Zone Falcon in the Central Training Area. The training sharpened the Marines' ability to gather intelligence while maintaining a secure landing zone for emergency extraction. Fernandez is a rifleman with 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, currently assigned to 4th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, under the unit deployment program.



UDP Marines take to air after collecting intel

Story and photos by Lance Cpl. Natalie M. Rostran
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

As dirt and rocks fly through the air, Marines take position among the trees, securing the site against possible enemy incursions. The feeling of controlled chaos is over shortly after it begins, as the Marines board the awaiting helicopters to execute their next mission.

Marines with 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, engaged in insertion-and-extraction training with CH-46E Sea Knight helicopters July 30 at Landing Zone Falcon in the Central Training Area.

The battalion is currently assigned to 4th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, under the unit deployment program.

The CH-46E and aircrew are with Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 262, Marine Aircraft Group 36, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, III MEF.

"The mission was to gather intelligence about a landing zone and get the information to higher headquarters," said 1st Lt. Christopher M. Toomer, a platoon commander with the battalion. "We

keep our skills proficient, in terms of helicopter operations and basic infantry skills, by doing this every few weeks."

The communication and sharing of intelligence was a two-way street during the training evolution, with the chain of command careful to provide the Marines with the information they needed to successfully plan and prepare for heliborne operations.

"I let my Marines know what the enemy situation is and the picture that has been painted from our leaders," said Toomer. "I want to make sure that they have all the information that I have. This helps them make better decisions to complete the mission."

The hot and humid climate of Okinawa coupled with unique terrain offers a training environment that helps further prepare the Marines to operate in austere conditions throughout the Asia-Pacific region, according to Toomer. It is similar to what they might experience during a humanitarian assistance and disaster relief operation or other contingencies in the region.

"The Marines understand that sometimes circumstances will arise where they will have

to complete a mission in this (climate)," said Toomer. "We make sure that they understand why we are doing the training and remind them to stay ready for any mission."

During this particular training, the ground forces were not the only unit to benefit from the fast paced tempo.

The aircrews enjoy working with the UDP infantry battalions and conducting insertion and extraction training, according to Capt. Joseph P. McConnell, a pilot with the squadron.

"These are always the most fun missions we do," said McConnell. "It's great to be able to get the (Marines) where they need to go and do it well."

With the training exercise a success, the Marines are scheduled to move on to more advanced training to ensure expeditionary readiness.

"We are going to do more live-fire scenarios," said Toomer. "The Marines will go farther into tree lines, patrol with fire teams, and increase the numbers up to platoon-level operations."

3rd Bn., 3rd Marines, is scheduled to participate in several exercises while participating in the UDP and will return to Marine Corps Base Hawaii later this year.



Marines watch as CH-46E Sea Knight helicopters fly over following insertion-and-extraction training July 30 at Landing Zone Falcon at the Central Training Area. The Marines were tasked with gathering enemy intelligence before calling for emergency evacuation from the area.



Marines run toward a CH-46E Sea Knight helicopter July 30 at Landing Zone Falcon in the Central Training Area during insertion-and-extraction training. The Marines inserted into the landing zone to achieve the time-sensitive task of gathering intelligence before an emergency evacuation. The Marines are with 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, currently assigned to 4th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, under the unit deployment program. The helicopter and aircrew are with Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 262, Marine Aircraft Group 36, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, III MEF.



Cpl. Chris A. Fernandez provides security during a training exercise July 30 at Landing Zone Falcon in the Central Training Area. The mission was to insert via helicopter into an area, secure the landing zone, and gather and send intelligence to higher headquarters before being extracted, according to Fernandez, a rifleman with 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment.

Oshima teens make splash at Camp Foster

Lance Cpl. Natalie M. Rostran
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

The sound of laughter and music float through the air, as visiting students and their host families enjoy a refreshing afternoon luau pool party.

Students with the 3rd annual Oshima youth cultural exchange program and their host families attended a luau Aug. 4 at the 50-meter pool on Camp Foster.

This was one of several scheduled events for the group from July 31 – Aug. 6 that included a social gathering with local American teens, a bowling night and a mini-internship with the American Chamber of Commerce in Okinawa.

The exchange program promotes the needs of service member and Status of Forces Agreement children's cultural and educational horizons through sharing and bonding with the children of Oshima, according to Robert D. Eldridge, the deputy assistant chief of staff, G-7, government and external affairs, Marine Corps Installations Pacific.

The visiting students, from Oshima, Kensennuma, Miyagi prefecture, Japan, stay with volunteer host families that care for the children for the duration of their stay on Okinawa. The students were affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake and subsequent tsunami that occurred in March 2011.

"The Oshima students shared their culture with our American teens during the week's events, especially at the cultural exchange talent show and brunch, where they performed a traditional Oshima dance they prepared as a way of saying thanks," said Cullen A. Ohashi, a host-family volunteer and chief of the Family Care Branch, Marine Corps Community Services, Okinawa. "The

Oshima students and our teens have been able to interact and have a really beneficial cultural exchange."

The program also introduced the students to the life of American children and families living in Okinawa.

"This is my first time attending the program," said Itsuki Otani, a 17-year-old student participant of the program. "I like the environment and atmosphere here on (Camp Foster) and Okinawa. My host family is very kind, and the food is really good."

The events were all planned to give the participants the opportunity to intermingle while having a good time.

"My hope is that programs like this strengthen our relationship with our host nation," said Corrine Williams, the program director for McTureous School-Age Care Program and Courtney Youth and Teen Center. "I think the kids are having a great time. The excitement they have when they were out there dancing and interacting shows in the smiles on their faces."

The time spent together also led to the formation of friendships.

"I love it all, and I'm really enjoying myself," said Otani. "I've made many great friends. I cannot thank them enough for this opportunity."

As the trip nears its end, the organizers and students are energized by the success of this year's exchange and look forward to next year's scheduled program.

"They're really looking forward to returning if they can," said Ohashi. "The kids that are here really enjoy it, and when they go back and tell their friends it brings more interest to the program because (their friends) want to take part in the next program."



Ayano Murakami, left, and Miki Sugawara swim with Marine families Aug. 4 at the 50-meter pool on Camp Foster during the luau pool party. The party was part of the 3rd annual Oshima youth cultural exchange program. The exchange program was established as part of the Marine Corps Community Services Okinawa Child, Youth and Teen program to promote the needs of American children and the children of Oshima. The participants are students between the ages of 13 and 18. Photo by Lance Cpl. Natalie M. Rostran

Ospreys arrive at Futenma, replace Sea Knights



For the full story of this event visit:
http://www.dvidshub.net/news/111403/first-mv-22s-second-squadron-arrive-mcas-futenma#UgGBUuBRq_E

For more photos of this event visit:
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/3mefpao/sets/72157634913931300>

An MV-22B Osprey taxis behind a CH-46E Sea Knight Helicopter after its arrival at Marine Corps Air Station Futenma Aug. 3. Two Osprey aircraft, part of the second Osprey squadron to Japan, flew in from MCAS Iwakuni. The arrival of the second Osprey squadron will complete the one-for-one replacement of the older CH-46E Sea Knight helicopters on Okinawa. The Osprey can fly twice as fast, carry three times the payload, and fly four times the distance of the older CH-46E. Its capabilities significantly benefit the U.S.-Japan alliance and strengthen III Marine Expeditionary Force's ability to provide for the defense of Japan and perform humanitarian assistance and disaster relief missions. The aircraft are part of Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 262, Marine Aircraft Group 36, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, III MEF. Photo Cpl. Matthew J. Manning

Okinawa community shares tradition with service members

Story and photos by Sgt. Anthony Kirby

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

Throughout the weekend, participants in brightly colored costumes dashed by crowds of people, as live music blasted from a stage and a feeling of wonder engulfed the area.

There was much to see and experience as Japanese and American citizens came together to enjoy the festivities at the 36th annual Urasoe Tedako Matsuri Festival July 26-28. Urasoe City Mayor Tetsuji Matsumoto invited Marines of Camp Kinser to attend the festival.

Col. Edmund J. Bowen and his wife, Deborah, also attended the event. Bowen is the Camp Kinser commander and commanding officer of Combat Logistics Regiment 37, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force.

"We came to represent the Marines of Camp Kinser and learn more about the traditions of Okinawa," said Bowen. "My wife and I feel honored to be invited by Matsumoto to spend this time with him and his wife."

Tedako Matsuri, tedako meaning child of the sun and matsuri meaning festival, is a yearly summer event that takes place typically at the end of July. The festival pays homage to a powerful king of the ancient Ryukyu kingdom.

At the summer festival, attendees listened to live music, watched traditional dance and taiko performances, sumo wrestling matches and a fireworks display. There was also plenty of food to enjoy and games to play.

U.S. service members took advantage of the opportunity to interact with the local community and better understand their culture.

"I've never seen anything like this before," said Cpl. Graham K. Ofori, a festival goer and a motor vehicle operator with 3rd Medical Battalion, 3rd MLG, III MEF. "You definitely don't see this kind of stuff in America. I highly encourage everyone who hasn't been to a local festival to go to them."

Multiple local Japanese and American families were seen spending time with one another at the festival.

"This is one of the best times to get together with friends and family to have fun," said Matsumoto. "It feels good to see U.S. service members enjoy themselves at the festival."

It was clear from the positive feedback of the roaring crowds that attendees enjoyed their time at the festival as the sharing of local traditions helped strengthen the bond between the local community and service members.

"It's always a good thing to share cultures because it brings people together," said Matsumoto. "I'm happy Bowen and his wife were able to join me and my wife, and I look forward to seeing them again at future festivals."



Okinawa musicians give a taiko performance July 27 at the 36th annual Urasoe Tedako Matsuri Festival. The tedako festival pays homage to a powerful king of the ancient Ryukyu kingdom.



Musicians perform at the 36th annual Urasoe Tedako Matsuri Festival July 27. Tedako Matsuri, tedako meaning child of the sun and matsuri meaning festival, is a yearly summer event that is steeped in Okinawa culture and traditions. "This is one of the best times to get together with friends and family," said Tetsuji Matsumoto, Urasoe City mayor. "I'm happy (Col. Edmund J.) Bowen and his wife were able to join me and my wife, and I look forward to seeing them again at future festivals." Bowen is the Camp Kinser commander and commanding officer of Combat Logistics Regiment 37, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force.

An Okinawa dance group performs July 27 at the 36th Annual Urasoe Tedako Matsuri Festival. The three-day festival included events such as a senior citizens' club karaoke contest, children's sumo competition and a senior citizens' club ring-toss contest.

3rd Medical Battalion sailors enhance capabilities

Lance Cpl. Jose D. Lujano

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

In a combat zone, when rounds fly, chaos will ensue and injuries are likely to occur. When service members are wounded in the line of duty, it is critical to have a skilled medical force that can rapidly and properly provide the treatment necessary to save a life and ensure the best recovery scenario possible.

Sailors with 3rd Medical Battalion, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force, participated in a forward resuscitative care course July 29 - Aug. 1 at the Simulated Trauma Advanced Training Center, Camp Foster.

The objective of the course was to familiarize corpsmen in the areas of collecting, clearing, treating, holding and evacuating casualties in the Navy's forward-deployed echelon, while in support of Marine Air-Ground Task Force operations, according to Petty Officer 2nd Class Jerricson B. Peralta, an instructor with the center and hospital corpsman with the battalion.

"The forward resuscitative surgical system is an eight-person team, composed of two general surgeons, two surgical technicians, a basic corpsman, an intensive care unit nurse, an independent duty corpsman, and an anesthesiologist," said Peralta.

An experienced team can assemble an FRSS in approximately one hour.

"The system is equipped to carry-out 18 surgeries in a 48-hour time span without a

resupply," said Peralta. "The surgical procedures executed in an FRSS depend on the number of casualties, resources available, current tactical situation and the patient's physiologic status."

A shock trauma platoon is attached to each FRSS to assist with initial resuscitation and triage.

"In the FRSS, we prefer life over limb," said Lt. Cmdr. Charles D. Baker, an anesthesiologist assigned to the battalion. "We want to have certainty that our injured are stabilized prior to moving them to a higher level of care."

The STP also increases the FRSS's ability to hold and sustain patients following a procedure, as it acts as a basic operating area for the injured that are postoperatively stable, according to Baker.

During a scenario, the corpsmen worked as a cohesive unit to provide medical attention quickly and efficiently to the mock victims.

"The medical staff is composed of various ranks and medical job fields," said Petty Officer 3rd Class Alyssa D. Glaze, a corpsman with the battalion. "However, in this field when we are treating patients, our lines of communication stay open regardless of who is working together."

Continuous training and dedication of each service member allows for an expedient, operational-ready unit, according to Glaze.

"I love what I do, and I am honored to play a part for III MEF in enhancing our capabilities that can be employed in a (deployed) or garrison environment, so we can treat injured service members under pressure quickly and flawlessly," said Glaze.



Petty Officer 2nd Class Nico DaSilva, right, checks the heartbeat of a mock casualty Aug. 1 during a forward resuscitative care course at the Simulated Trauma Advanced Training Center, Camp Foster. The course familiarized corpsmen in the areas of collecting, clearing, treating, holding and evacuating casualties in the Navy's forward-deployed echelon, while in support of Marine Air-Ground Task Force operations, according to Petty Officer 2nd Class Jerricson B. Peralta, an instructor with the center and a hospital corpsman with the battalion. DaSilva is also a corpsman with the battalion. Photo by Lance Cpl. Jose D. Lujano

Communication Marines hone craft during exercise

Lance Cpl. Jose D. Lujano

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

Communications have always played a vital role on the battlefield and in noncombatant military missions. Marines with 3rd Marine Logistics Group overcame communication struggles to prepare for future mission success and keep the lines of communication open.

The Marines participated in a communication exercise that began July 8 and will end on Aug. 8 taking place at Camps Foster, Kinser and Hansen. The Marines are with Combat Logistics Regiments 3, 35, and 37, and 9th Engineer Support Battalion, which are all units assigned to 3rd MLG, III Marine Expeditionary Force.

Communication exercises benefit the Marines by preparing them to maintain and enhance their capabilities to support a military response to any contingencies that may occur in the Asia-Pacific region.

"For this specific exercise, we are working out all the problems in our procedures while we sharpen our craft for the 3rd MLG's commitment to (the Asia-Pacific region)," said Staff Sgt. Brandon M. Sheffield, a radio chief with CLR-35, 3rd MLG, III MEF.

During the exercise, the Marines conducted a variety of communication capabilities exercises to include setting up a radio section, data section and establishing telephone services.

"It is exercises like these where Marines can see all the equipment employed at a regimental or group level, and understand how it all works together," said Sgt. William J. Googe, a field radio operator with CLR-3. "In the beginning, we were not as fast as we are now in setting up communications with other units. By continuously training, our confidence has skyrocketed, and we can only get better from here."

Training is the key factor of a unit's readiness and enables inexperienced Marines to enhance the skills required to function in a field

environment, and familiarize all Marines with communications that would normally go in a command post.

"Since we were in a field setting instead of a classroom, we had the opportunity to do hands-on training," said Pfc. Susanna H. Bacci, a field radio operator with CLR-35.

Communication Marines have a big influence on the success of any operation or exercise because without them mission-critical information would not be relayed or disseminated. The exercise was great preparation for future missions, according to Bacci.

Whether on exercises or participating in real-world operations, Marines across the Pacific train rigorously on a daily basis to prepare themselves for any contingency that may occur.

"Due to the (shift of focus) to the Pacific, our priority is to be able to fight tonight, and these exercises (sharpen) our ability to respond rapidly and efficiently to any operation," said Sheffield. "Providing good communication is not only important on the logistics side, but it is also vital to saving lives when the time is needed."



Sgt. Jordan M. Davis, right, assembles a satellite communications antenna during a communication exercise July 26 at Camp Foster. "For this specific exercise, we are working out all the kinks as we sharpen our craft for the group's commitment to (the Asia-Pacific region)," said Staff Sgt. Brandon M. Sheffield, a radio chief with Combat Logistics Regiment 35, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force. Davis is a field radio operator with CLR 3, 3rd MLG, III MEF. Photo by Lance Cpl. Jose D. Lujano

In Theaters Now

AUG 9 - 15

FOSTER

TODAY Percy Jackson: Sea of Monsters (3-D) (PG), 6 p.m.; 2 Guns (R), 9:30 p.m.

SATURDAY Despicable Me 2 (3-D) (PG), noon; Percy Jackson: Sea of Monsters (3-D) (PG), 3 p.m.; 2 Guns (R), 6 p.m.; Kevin Hart: Let Me Explain (R), 9 p.m.

SUNDAY Monsters University (3-D) (G), Percy Jackson: Sea of Monsters (3-D) (PG), 4 p.m.; 2 Guns (R), 7 p.m.

MONDAY Percy Jackson: Sea of Monsters (3-D) (PG), 3 p.m.; 2 Guns (R), 7 p.m.

TUESDAY Percy Jackson: Sea of Monsters (PG), 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY 2 Guns (R), 7 p.m.

THURSDAY The Smurfs 2 (PG), 3 p.m.; 2 Guns (R), 7 p.m.

KADENA

TODAY Percy Jackson: Sea of Monsters (3-D) (PG), 6 p.m.; 2 Guns (R), 9 p.m.

SATURDAY Despicable Me 2 (PG), noon; Percy Jackson: Sea of Monsters (3-D) (PG), 3 & 6 p.m.; 2 Guns (R), 9 p.m.

SUNDAY Percy Jackson: Sea of Monsters (3-D) (PG), 1 p.m.; Percy Jackson: Sea of Monsters (PG), 4 p.m.; 2 Guns (R), 8 p.m.

MONDAY Percy Jackson: Sea of Monsters (3-D) (PG), 7 p.m.

TUESDAY The Smurfs 2 (3-D) (PG), 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY 2 Guns (R), 7 p.m.

THURSDAY Percy Jackson: Sea of Monsters (PG), 3 p.m.; The Wolverine (PG13), 7 p.m.

COURTNEY

TODAY Percy Jackson: Sea of Monsters (3-D) (PG), 6 & 9 p.m.

SATURDAY The Smurfs 2 (PG), 3 p.m.; Man of Steel (PG13), 6 p.m.

SUNDAY Percy Jackson: Sea of Monsters (PG), 3 p.m.; 2 Guns (R), 6 p.m.

MONDAY The Conjuring (R), 7 p.m.

TUESDAY Closed

WEDNESDAY Monsters University (G), 7 p.m.

THURSDAY Closed

FUTENMA

TODAY 2 Guns (R), 6:30 p.m.

SATURDAY Percy Jackson: Sea of Monsters (3-D) (PG), 4 p.m.; 2 Guns (R), 7 p.m.

SUNDAY Percy Jackson: Sea of Monsters (3-D) (PG), 4 p.m.; Percy Jackson: Sea of Monsters (PG), 7 p.m.

MONDAY Kevin Hart: Let Me Explain (R), 6:30 p.m.

TUESDAY-THURSDAY Closed

KINSER

TODAY 2 Guns (R), 6:30 p.m.

SATURDAY Percy Jackson: Sea of Monsters (3-D) (PG), 3 p.m.; 2 Guns (R), 6:30 p.m.

SUNDAY Percy Jackson: Sea of Monsters (PG), 1 p.m.; Percy Jackson: Sea of Monsters (3-D) (PG), 3:30 p.m.; 2 Guns (R), 6:30 p.m.

MONDAY-TUESDAY Closed

WEDNESDAY Percy Jackson: Sea of Monsters (3-D) (PG), 6:30 p.m.

THURSDAY 2 Guns (R), 6:30 p.m.

SCHWAB

TODAY Percy Jackson: Sea of Monsters (3-D) (PG), 6 p.m.; 2 Guns (R), 9 p.m.

SATURDAY Percy Jackson: Sea of Monsters (3-D) (PG), 6 p.m.; 2 Guns (R), 9 p.m.

SUNDAY Kevin Hart: Let Me Explain (R), 3 p.m.; 2 Guns (R), 6 p.m.

MONDAY-THURSDAY Closed

HANSEN

TODAY 2 Guns (R), 6:30 & 10 p.m.

SATURDAY Percy Jackson: Sea of Monsters (3-D) (PG), 3 p.m.; 2 Guns (R), 6 & 9:30 p.m.

SUNDAY Percy Jackson: Sea of Monsters (3-D) (PG), 2:30 p.m.; 2 Guns (R), 6 p.m.

MONDAY Red 2 (PG13), 7 p.m.

TUESDAY 2 Guns (R), 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY Kevin Hart: Let Me Explain (R), 7 p.m.

THURSDAY Percy Jackson: Sea of Monsters (3-D) (PG), 7 p.m.

THEATER DIRECTORY

CAMP FOSTER 645-3465

KADENA AIR BASE 634-1869

(USO NIGHT) 632-8781

MCAS FUTENMA 636-3890

(USO NIGHT) 636-2113

CAMP COURTNEY 622-9616

CAMP HANSEN 623-4564

(USO NIGHT) 623-5011

CAMP KINSER 637-2177

CAMP SCHWAB 625-2333

(USO NIGHT) 625-3834

Movie schedule is subject to change without notice. Call in advance to confirm show times. For a complete listing and 3-D availability visit www.shopmyexchange.com.



SINGLE MARINE PROGRAM EVENTS

For more information or to sign up, contact the Single Marine Program at 645-3681.

MT FUJI DISCOUNT

• The SMP is offering discount tickets for a trip to Mount Fuji taking place Aug. 21-25. Seating is limited. For more information, contact the SMP office via the number above.

DANCE OFF

• Join the SMP for the all-camps dance-off Aug. 24 at the Camp Foster Ocean Breeze. The event will feature hip-hop, country and latin music. For more information, contact the SMP office via the number above.

Mention of any company in this notice does not imply endorsement by the Marine Corps.

TEST YOUR CORPS KNOWLEDGE:

What battle was immortalized in the Marines' Hymn lyrics "the shores of Tripoli?"

See answer in next week's issue

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

When was the first amphibious landing in Marine Corps history?

ANSWER:

The battle of Nassau in March 1776, when Continental Marines landed against the British port of Nassau, Bahamas, during the American Revolutionary War.



Japanese phrase of the week:

“Konbanwa.”

(pronounced: kohn-bahn-wa)

It means “Good evening.”

CHAPLAINS'

OPINION

“Our reactions can and do make the difference between ‘just another day’ and ‘one for the history books.’”



Live, react to every day positively

Lt. Genevieve Clark

MARINE AIR CONTROL GROUP 18 CHAPLAIN

You wake-up one morning and think “just another day.” You dress and go to work. But then something unexpected happens. You witness a car accident and “jump in to help.” You have a “gut” reaction to call 911, check for signs of life and act. Gut reactions come from our character. An intangible force within, shaped by faith in a higher power, belief or system. Unfortunately at times you might react with impatience, worry or irritation.

Our reactions can and do make the difference between “just another day” and “one for the history books.”

Here's one from the history books. Col. George E. “Bud” Day, an enlisted Marine during WWII in the Pacific theater, and an Air Force pilot during the Korean and Vietnam Wars, whose reactions and daily living have been recounted as history tells his story of valor, conduct and ‘inspirational leadership,’ of how he lived each “average” day. Referencing his POW experience he said, “As awful as it sounds,

no one could say we did not do well ... I was just living day-to-day,” said Day. The reality is, there were things that “happened” to Day, and for each he had a gut reaction. So what made Day's days “one for the history books?” His gut reactions came from his character, which I believe was formulated by faith. Faith is a belief in something beyond ourselves. A power, a force, a system inspiring us to have that first gut reaction: the desire to help and to positively contribute.

There is a power within each of us to be an inspirational leader. If we only allow that power to grow and develop into “fruit,” rather than wither and die within. “By God's power, may fruition be brought to your every desire for goodness; your every deed prompted by faith,” (2 Thessalonians 1:11).

How do you tap that inspirational energy and nurture faith that grows fruit? If you want to know more about making “just another day” turn out to be one for the history books, talk to your religious ministry team about the “power that can bring to fruition every good deed.”

FOR UPCOMING SPECIAL WORSHIP SERVICES AND EVENTS FOR ALL MARINE CORPS BASE CHAPELS,

CALL 645-2501 OR VISIT WWW.MCIPAC.MARINES.MIL AND LOOK UNDER “AROUND MCIPAC”